

property tax situation. That board did exactly that for one year's time and produced some good studies. Legislation was not forthcoming, but good studies were. So we have had a policy of referring some of the very difficult, complicated, emotional, value-laden tax and organization issues to the Executive Board. So in the end, even though I didn't get my way, even though my druthers weren't satisfied, I would prefer to have this issue before a combined committee consisting of the Executive Board and the Education Committee than to have it continue to be the exclusive province and domain of the Education Committee. I want to just talk about what Senator Lamb is referring to. Senator Lamb is saying, very simply, that the reason that folk don't want this bill in the Education Committee is they know the Education Committee will kill this bill. So what the folk are trying to do is the folk are trying to steer this bill to a committee or to a group that is more favorably inclined to the bill. I believe, in fact, the Education Committee would kill this bill. I feel, frankly, in dealing with this issue like a Northerner must have felt in the United States Senate...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: ...as he talked about civil rights, knowing that every civil rights bill would go to the Judiciary Committee of the United States Senate which, for years, was stacked with Southerners. That was always their special province, their domain and they killed, year in and year out, civil rights bills. But, doggone it, school organization in our state is an issue that belongs to Omahans, to Lincolnites, to Imperialites, to Syracuse members, to Auburn folk, to Fremontites, North Bend people, it's a statewide issue. It doesn't belong to one committee that has no Omaha representation on it, no Lincoln representation on it. It's all a rural committee. It belongs to this body as a whole. This body, as a whole, is represented by the Executive Board. I say this issue should go to the Executive Board, but because education has always had a longstanding interest let them share. Let them share.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Time is up.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: That is fair. I oppose Senator Lamb's motion to rerefer.